Message Text

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E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR

SUBJECT: MORNING SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT REPORTS

1. CUBAN INTERVENTION IN LEBANON?

KING HUSSEIN BRIEFED AMBASSADOR PICKERING JULY 14 ON ELEMENTS OF A RECENT CONVERSATION WITH SYRIAN PRESIDENT ASAD, WHO TOLD THE KING THAT:

- --NO PROGRESS WAS MADE AT THE LAST ARAB LEAGUE MEETING IN CAIRO.
- --HE EXPECTS CUBA TO BECOME INVOLVED IN LEBANON ON THE SIDE OF THE PLO AND THE LEFTISTS.

THE KING ALSO TOLD PICKERING THAT THE SAUDIS HAD GIVEN HIM THE IMPRESSION THAT AMBASSADOR PORTER WAS NOT AWARE OF THE SECRET

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USG'S AIR DEFENSE PROPOSAL TO JORDAN.

AMBASSADOR'S COMMENT: ACTING ON INSTRUCTIONS, I INFORMED THE KING THAT THE SAUDIS HAD INDEED BEEN IN TOUCH WITH US IN JIDDA. HE RELAXED NOTICEABLY. (SECRET) AMMAN 3707 (EXDIS), 7/14.)

2. ON CLIPPING THE PLO'S WINGS

KUWAITI DEPUTY PRIME MINISTER JABAR AL-ALI HAS GIVEN AMBAS-SADOR MAESTRONE A CONFIDENTIAL ACCOUNT OF SYRIA'S POSITION TOWARD THE PLO. AS EXPLAINED TO AL-ALI BY SYRIAN INFORMATION MINISTER AHMAD ISKANDAR, THE SYRIANS:

- --ARE DETERMINED TO BRING THE PLO TO ITS KNEES IN LEBANON, THEREBY EFFECTIVELY REMOVING IT AS SPOKESMAN FOR THE PALESTINIANS;
- --FAVOR THE TRANSFER OF PALESTINIAN LEADERSHIP TO THE WEST BANK;
- --WOULD BE CONTENT WITH THE DE FACTO PARTITION OF LEBANON AND THE INTERPOSITION OF THE ARAB PEACEKEEP-ING FORCE ALONG THE PARTITION LINE.

AL-ALI ADDED THAT ALL MODERATE ARAB REGIMES SUPPORTED SYRIA'S ACTIONS IN LEBANON AND WOULD BE PLEASED TO SEE THE WINGS OF ARAFAT AND THE PLO SEVERELY CLIPPED.

AMBASSADOR'S COMMENT: AL-ALI, WHO IS THE MOST OUTSPOKEN MEMBER OF THE RULING SABAH FAMILY, IS VERY PRO-US AND PRO-UK, WHICH IS WHY HE MAY HAVE CHOSEN TO EXPRESS THESE VIEWS TO ME. (SECRET) KUWAIT 3364 (EXDIS), 7/14.)

3. KENYA: THE NEW DRILL ON OIL FOR AMIN

IN A JULY 14 MEETING IN NAIROBI, PRESIDENTIAL PERMANENT SECRETARY KARIITHI TOLD AMBASSADOR MARSHALL THAT:

--DELIVERIES OF OIL TO UGANDA ARE UNDER CONSTANT GOK REVIEW, ALTHOUGH THE OIL COMPANIES ARE PRESSURING SECRET

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THE GOVERNMENT TO ALLOW THEM TO MAKE DELIVERIES.

- --PRESIDENT KENYATTA HAD REPLIED TO SOMALI PRESIDENT SAID BARRE'S MESSAGE, BUT MADE NO MENTION OF THE LATTER'S OFFER TO "MEDIATE." (KARIITHI SAID HE WOULD PREFER MOBUTU AS ARBITRATOR IF SUCH WERE NEEDED.)
- --KENYA IS ABSOLUTELY CERTAIN LIBYAN PLANES ARE IN

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